

✻ B. C. ✻ AGR

REVIEW OF

THE NEW

HISTORY OF THE ASSOCIATION.

The Fifteenth Provincial Exhibition under the auspices of the British Columbia Agricultural Association, which opens at Victoria on the 29th September, 1891, may well be taken as a point of vantage from which to look back upon a past that, despite some drawbacks, is full of encouragement as showing that the operations of the organization and those that preceded it have been very beneficial. There may be some,—there always are such in every community,—who will be disposed to place the very lowest estimate upon past achievements, but they forget the difficulties that have had to be overcome, and do not remember that the Victoria Association has every claim to be regarded as the parent of those local societies which, upon the Island and the Mainland, have stimulated the taste for agriculture, have assisted to develop the interest, and have, indeed, led to the adoption of something like method and science in its pursuance.

It may well be said that, considering the favorable conditions of the Pacific Coast country and the progress that has been made on the other side the lines, far greater headway ought to have been made here, and that by this time there ought to be little necessity to import agricultural or horticultural produce from either the United States or Ontario. Whatever the reason may be, the blame does not attach to the country; and therefore it is well to "let the dead past bury its dead," as far as anything like complaint or regret is concerned. There are, however, many matters of interest which, unless recalled, may drop forever out of memory, and to these the occasion of inaugurating the new buildings and grounds, is a fitting one to refer.

Early in the sixties, in 1861 or 1862, the Vancouver Agricultural and Horticultural Society was formed, Mr. J. T. Pidwell being secretary and Mr. James Lowe treasurer. In 1863 it held an exhibition in—if the information at hand be correct—the old Fort yard, between Government and Wharf Streets. The amount of prizes then awarded was \$259, the late Dr. Tolmie being the most successful exhibitor, and carrying off seven first and five second prizes for cattle and produce. Among other successful competitors were Governor Douglas, John Clayton, Jas. Dean, Col. Foster, H. Henley, G. Harvey and the late Kenneth McKenzie.

In 1864 the amount of prizes competed for was \$193.50,

Brown, R. Porter, H. Cogan, W. Dalby, Irvine, P. Imrie, and G. Deans. Mr. M. P. for Victoria, was elected a life member. The exhibition was held in Buckley's Hall, Yates yard. Special features of the prize sheep raised and fed in the Province for building purposes. In 1873 the president, Mr. W. Thompson 1st vice president; Mr. E. L. Cogan 2nd vice president; Mr. E. L. Thomas Russell, secretary; Mr. T. for many years as assistant secretary. Exhibitors at this time, were Dr. Tolmie. The class of cattle was very fair, the primary grades, there having been a few descriptions of animals since that period produce was raised beyond what was a presumption.

At the show of 1873 the prize cattle, five of sheep, five of pigs, five of twelve of fruit, seventeen of vegetables, two of implements. Among those in connection with agricultural matters a Governor Trutch, Messrs. W. Dalby, S. Sandover, J. T. McIlmoyle, G. H. Shakespeare, A. C. Wells (Chilliwack).

The annual meeting of 1876 was held at the residence of Mr. Noah Shakespeare in the city. He was elected president, D. Le Neveu, 1st vice president; J. H. Turner, 2nd vice-president; J. H. Turner, treasurer; secretary. At that meeting, among others, Messrs. N. Shakespeare, W. Turgo, ridge, J. D. Pemberton, D. W. Higg, D. Thompson, James Fell, J. H. T. Mills, George Deans, J. B. Sere and

In 1878, during the presidency of Mr. Noah Shakespeare, the Society forwarded an exhibition of produce to the Dominion Exhibition, for which it obtained

The Agricultural Society continued succeeding years with marked benefit. special incidents until 1882, when the park was formally inaugurated by the Governor, the Marquis of Lorne, and

AGRICULTURAL

VIEW OF ITS HISTORY. WHAT IT HAS

NEW GROUNDS AND CH

Porter, H. Cogan, W. Dalby, G. Lindsay, G. J. Stuart, J. Mrie, and G. Deans. Mr. Henry Nathan, at that time Victoria, was elected a life member. The show of 1872 in Buckley's Hall, Yates Street, and the adjoining special features of the prize list were for fat cattle and fed in the Province, as well as for lime purposes. In 1873 Mr. W. Dalby was elected Mr. W. Thompson 1st vice-president and Mr. H. vice president; Mr. E. H. Jackson, treasurer; Mr. Russell, secretary; Mr. T. J. Partridge acting then and years as assistant secretary. Among the prominent at this time, were Dr. Tolmie, W. Hunt and H. Brown. of cattle was very fair, they and the horses being orders, there having been a wonderful improvement in all s of animals since that period. At that time but little as raised beyond what was required for home con-

the show of 1873 the prize list shows eight classes of of sheep, five of pigs, five of poultry, seven of horses, fruit, seventeen of vegetables, three of flowers, and elements. Among those who were prominent in conch agricultural matters at this time were Lieutenant-Trutch, Messrs. W. Dalby, W. H. Ladner, J. Kirkland, r, J. T. McIlmoyle, G. H. McTavish, W. Turgoose, N. re, A. C. Wells (Chilliwhack) and J. Reese.

annual meeting of 1876 was held in the council cham- oah Shakespeare in the chair. Mr. James Fell was sident, D. Le Neveu, 1st vice-president; J. P. Davies, resident; J. H. Turner, treasurer; and Thos. Russell. At that meeting, among others, there were present Shakespeare, W. Turgoose; J. W. Carter, T. J. Part- Pemberton, D. W. Higgins, Dr. Tolmie, S. Sandover, on, James Fell, J. H. Todd, Thomas Russell, S. P. ge Deans, J. B. Sere and H. Baker.

78, during the presidency of Mr. T. W. Carter, the awarded an exhibition of wheat and oats to the Paris for which it obtained a diploma.

gricultural Society continued its operations during the years with marked beneficial results, but with no idents until 1882, when the exhibition at the driving ormally inaugurated by His Excellency the Govern- Maria of Lejos, and the Princess Louise, who

With a view to continuing the exhibitions in Victoria, a special meeting was held on the 7th November, 1889, when it was resolved to incorporate this Society under the Agricultural Societies' Incorporation Act, under the name of the B. C. Agricultural Association. The first trustees were Messrs. James Fell, D. R. Ker, C. E. Renouf, G. A. McTavish and N. Shakespeare. The following officers were elected: W. Dalby, president; H. Webb, Chilliwhack, 1st vice-president; J. D. Bryant, 2nd vice-president; C. E. Renouf, secretary; N. Shakespeare, treasurer. There was also a large representative directorate, all active workers, the result being that the show of 1890 was superior to anything ever previously held in the Province, there being over 1800 entries, nearly double the number of those in 1888.

For the present year the following officers were elected:— D. R. Ker, President; W. H. Ladner, 1st Vice-President; S. Sandover, 2nd Vice-President; G. A. McTavish, Treasurer; and C. E. Renouf, Secretary, with an energetic Board of Directors. Mr. W. H. Bainbridge was appointed Assistant Secretary.

It was readily recognized that in order to have successful exhibitions better grounds and buildings must be secured. With this object in view several meetings were held, an eligible piece of land on the Cadboro Bay Road was secured at considerable cost, plans for a new building were prepared, and a by-law introduced into the City Council to be ratified by the people, granting the necessary financial assistance. That by-law was endorsed at the polls, it being recognized that the proposal was an excellent one, the Society's property being vested in the city until the advances are re-paid, and forming a valuable municipal asset. It was decided to accept Mr. Soule's plans for the building, which stands in grounds 900 feet long by 240, adjoining the Driving Park, from the road leading to which they extend to the Cadboro Bay Road. Cattle arriving by boat can be landed at a wharf a few hundred yards distant, while from the surrounding country animals can be driven in without being compelled to pass through the city. The tram cars will carry passengers to the gates, and nothing has been neglected in the way of providing the most perfect accommodation.

THE ELECTRIC LIGHT.

A contract was let for lighting the grounds with ten arc lamps set on artistically shaped posts, fifteen feet in height; the light to be shown in a square lantern neatly arranged on the pole-top by

ASSOCIATION

AS ACCOMPLISHED.

CRYSTAL PALACE

seventy feet from the ground, from an outside balcony encircling the main tower. Descending and passing out of the main building by the eastern door, about seventy feet distant, one comes to the poultry building 30 x 60 feet, light, airy and with plenty of room. Passing on and out next to the judges' ring, in the form of an ellipse, around which on three sides, with back to the fence, are the open stalls, the enclosed stables and the pens for sheep, pigs, etc. The buildings and grounds will add one more to the many attractions of Victoria.

THIS YEAR'S EXHIBITION.

Much in advance as was last year's show over any and all that have preceded it, that of the present year, which opens on the 29th September, bids fair to be infinitely superior to it. The total value of the prizes to be competed for is upwards of \$4,000.00, besides the diplomas and the medals and purses contributed by private individuals. The cattle list comprises 61 classes and 7 divisions; the horses, 83 classes in 8 divisions; sheep, 28 classes, 7 divisions; pigs, 29 classes, 8 divisions; fowls, 168 classes, comprising all the fashionable breeds. A special division is provided for pit game, in which there are 20 classes. Bantams are comprehended under 20 classes, while under breeding pens of fowls there are no less than forty classes. Turkeys, geese, ducks, pheasants, sea fowl and singing birds are liberally provided for in the way of prizes, and the children's pets, rabbits and guinea pigs, will afford the juveniles capital opportunities of competing with each other. Pigeons will be found under 70 classes. Dairy produce, bread and eggs, as a matter of course, are upon the list. Implements, carriages and wagons—particularly those manufactured in the Province—are specially encouraged, and the fine arts, natural history, mineralogy and the comprehensive "miscellaneous" constitute numerous classes. Under vegetables there are 26 headings, and in field produce 30. Fruit growers have been specially remembered, 55 descriptions of apples being on the catalogue, 22 of pears, 19 of plums and of other fruits 15. Floral plants cover 42 descriptions and cut flowers no less than 57. For fancy work there are over 100 prizes, and for millinery 5. Some of the special prizes are worthy of particular mention. Among these are the awards to be made for the most graceful and accomplished lady and gentleman riders, for the best decorated horse, for light and heavy weight jumping, for the best working sheep dog, for the best

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The presence of H.M.S. Flagship, Warspite, in the graving dock at Esquimalt, will afford to visitors and others a splendid opportunity of visiting and inspecting this magnificent specimen of naval architecture and armament, the tram cars carrying passengers to the gate of the dock yard.

All the railway and steamboat lines have not only reduced their rates of fare, but extra service will be supplied.

OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 1890-91:

D. R. KER, President.....Victoria.
W. H. LADNER, 1st Vice-President.....Ladner's Landing.
S. SANDOVER, 2nd Vice President.....N. Saanich.
G. A. McTAVISH, Treasurer.....Victoria.
C. E. RENOUF, Secretary.....Victoria.
W. H. BAINBRIDGE, Ass't Secretary.....Victoria.

TRUSTEES.

N. Shakespeare, D. R. Ker, G. A. McTavish, C. E. Renouf,
J. H. Todd.

DIRECTORS.

W. Fisher, Lulu Island; C. Hayward, sr., Victoria; W. Templeton, Vancouver; T. J. Partridge, Victoria; A. H. Gillanders, Chilliwack; J. H. Todd, Victoria; E. Hutchenson, Ladner's; E. Johns, South Saanich; H. D. Benson, Ladner's; W. Thomson, S. Saanich; J. Kirkland, Ladner's; J. T. McIlmoyl, S. Saanich; H. Webb, Chilliwack; W. Templeman, Victoria; E. Wells, Chilliwack; T. W. Carter, Victoria; H. F. Page, Matsqui; W. Lorimer, Victoria; J. C. McLagan, Vancouver; John Grant, Victoria; C. J. Major, New Westminster; M. Baker, Victoria; Prof. Sharpe, Agassiz; W. J. Pendray, Victoria; John Braden, Victoria; W. Dalby, Victoria; I. H. Ross, Victoria; R. Seabrook, Victoria; Dr. Milne, Victoria; W. J. McKeon, jr., Victoria.

COMMITTEES.

FINANCE.

J. H. Todd. R. Seabrook. Dr. Milne.

PRINTING AND ADVERTISING.

R. Seabrook. W. J. McKeon. W. J. Pendray. T. W. Carter.

HALL.

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In 1864 the amount of prizes competed for was \$193.50, numerous certificates of honorable mention falling to the lot of those who did not secure monetary consideration. At the show of September 14, 1865, the value of the prizes was \$317, and in 1868, to which there seems to have been a skip, \$305.50. During a portion of this time Mr. J. C. Bales very efficiently and energetically fulfilled the duties of Secretary, and during his time a ball was given subsequent to the show, by which \$300 was raised for a poor widow. Entertainments were given after almost all the shows, some of which were held in Buckley's Hall, on Yates Street. A grand dinner followed the exhibition of 1869, which it was thought would give an impetus to the Association, which, however, shortly afterward broke up.

It did not take those who were really interested in agriculture long to appreciate the benefits which the old Association had conferred, and on December 9th, 1871, a numerously attended meeting was held at the old Mechanics' Hall, corner Fort and Government Streets, to consider what it was best to do. Among those present were Messrs. W. Gibbs, H. Mitchell, J. Irvine, George Nicholson, P. Imrie, George Lindsay, Thomas Nicholson, H. Cogan, A. Peatt, P. J. Lester, W. F. Tolmie, R. Baker, George Deans, J. W. Williams, G. J. Stuart, R. Wallace, L. Lawrence, Thomas Mitchell, Joseph Nicholson, W. Turgoose, W. Dalby, H. Simpson, W. Thompson, W. Lidgate, R. Brown, R. Porter, W. Elford, A. Bunster, T. J. Partridge, H. Henley, A. Anderson and E. H. Jackson. Dr. Tolmie was called to the chair, Mr. E. H. Jackson acting as secretary. After a friendly talk over some of the agricultural conditions and requirements of the colony, a Farmers' Club was formed for the purpose of advancing the interests of agriculture by holding weekly or monthly meetings at which to discuss farming subjects, and by having annual or semi-annual exhibitions. The membership subscription was fixed at \$5. The following were the first officers: W. F. Tolmie, president; E. H. Jackson, secretary and treasurer; W. Thompson, 1st vice-president; J. Lawrence, 2nd vice-president. The following directors were also named: R.

special incidents until 1882, when the park was formally inaugurated by General, the Marquis of Lorne, and were received by the President, Mr. Copeare, M. P., and other prominent honors. In 1883 the exhibition was Mr. W. Ladner, being President. In place in Victoria, Mr. J. D. Bryant,

In 1885 a successful show was and in the next year an exhibition improvement on past years was held at Beacon Hill Park. Mr. N. Shaughnessy was President. An endeavor to make the organization was not successful, and the basis of the Provincial grant—of Chilliwhack, having been elected show in 1887 was Chilliwhack. The of produce, and the liberality and was worthy of all praise. Hon. D. very great interest in the Society, with C. E. Renouf succeeding Mr. Russell, a man having left the city on the eve, ever, so much energy was thrown in was a wonderful success. There were in horned cattle, Messrs. Dalby, Law, fine specimens of Shorthorns. The annual meeting of 1888 was the last most animated ever held, there being the Association bodily over to the M.

The exhibition of 1889 showed interest, New Westminster, under the management of Mr. J. H. Pritchard, and Mr. J. H. Pritchard, putting up fine making other admirable arrangements was a most imposing trades and large number of visitors. Although the Island of Vancouver was not visited all the leading prizes.

ventions until 1882, when the exhibition at the driving formally inaugurated by His Excellency the Governor-General Marquis of Lorne, and the Princess Louise, who presided by the President, Mr. George Deans, Mayor Shakespeare, and other prominent citizens, with distinguished success. In 1883 the exhibition was held at New Westminster, Ladner, being President. In 1884 the show again took place at Victoria, Mr. J. D. Bryant, President.

In 1885 a successful show was held at New Westminster, and the next year an exhibition that was in every way an improvement on past years was held, in the Agricultural Hall, Hill Park. Mr. N. Shakespeare was at this time President. An endeavor to make the Society a purely Mainland organization was not successful, and the alternating system—between the Provincial grant—was adhered to. Mr. Wells, of Chilliwack, having been elected president, the scene of the 1887 was Chilliwack. There was an admirable display of stock and the liberality and hospitality of the residents of all praise. Hon. D. W. Higgins, who had taken a deep interest in the Society, was the next president, Mr. Russell succeeding Mr. Russell as secretary, that gentleman having left the city on the eve of the anniversary. How much energy was thrown into the work that the show proved a wonderful success. There was a marked improvement in the cattle, Messrs. Dalby, Ladner and others exhibiting fine specimens of Shorthorns, Jerseys and Holsteins. The exhibition of 1888 was the largest and possibly one of the best ever held, there being a strong desire to carry the exhibition bodily over to the Mainland.

The exhibition of 1889 showed a marked change in public opinion at New Westminster, under the influence of Messrs. Cunningham and Ladner, putting up fine agricultural buildings and other admirable arrangements. On this occasion there was a most imposing trades and labor procession and a very large number of visitors. Although the number of exhibits from the Province of Vancouver was not very large, still it carried off many prizes.

A contract was let for lighting the grounds with ten arc lamps set on artistically shaped posts, fifteen feet in height; the light to be shown in a square lantern neatly arranged on the pole-top by means of an iron cap and cross-arm. Twenty additional arc lamps will illuminate the ground floor and main gallery of the interior of the building. These lamps will be of specially neat design, and will give forth a steady, milky-white light. An arc light will also adorn the tower of the main building inside, performing the functions of a beacon.

In the Art Gallery, third floor, it is proposed to place twenty-five incandescent lights so arranged as to produce the best results upon the pictures, while showing the many designs of the light itself. In connection with the incandescent dynamo used for lighting, it is also proposed to operate motors for the propulsion of light machinery during the continuance of the fair. The whole work is in the hands of Mr. R. B. McMicking.

THE BUILDING.

The entrances to the grounds are by large arched gates, one from the Cabbro Bay Road and one from the road to the Driving Park, the former being intended principally for stock, and the latter for goods for exhibition and visitors driving, beside which are smaller gates for visitors on foot. The main entrance being on the west, the grounds in front and around the two sides will be laid out for horticulture display, with lawns and back ground of ornamental shrubs and trees and ribbon beds of flowers. Visitors drive up and alight under cover of the spacious porte-cochere, and enter the main exhibition building, where the products of the Province of every conceivable kind will have ample room and light for exhibiting their various excellencies.

The galleries extend completely around the building, being reached from each corner, and the art gallery is still higher, and forms a point of vantage around the centre of the main tower, from which a bird's-eye view of the whole of the interior is obtained. Still higher another bird's eye view is to be had by climbing more stairs—an exterior one—a charming view of the surrounding country in every direction, seen from a height of

other fruits 10. Floral plants cover 42 descriptions and cut flowers no less than 57. For fancy work there are over 100 prizes, and for millinery 5. Some of the special prizes are worthy of particular mention. Among these are the awards to be made for the most graceful and accomplished lady and gentleman riders, for the best decorated horse, for light and heavy weight jumping, for the best working sheep dog, for the best exhibition of horses made by one exhibitor, and for the best exhibit of colts and fillies raised and owned by one man and sired by the Suffolk Punch horse Ben II.

Every day there will be sports and special attractions on the Fair Grounds which cannot fail to be of the utmost interest. In the Driving Park adjoining the Fair Grounds \$3,000 will be disposed of in trotting, running and hurdle races, for which many of the best horses on the coast are being trained. This will be the fall meeting of the Victoria Jockey Club, under whose auspices the races take place. Its President is Mr. R. P. Rithet; Mr. W. P. Sayward, Vice-President; W. H. Bainbridge, Secretary; and W. Dalby, Treasurer.

The Northwestern Firemen's Association have arranged for a three days' tournament during three days of exhibition week, in which 15 to 20 teams from Oregon, Washington and British Columbia will compete. A specially interesting feature will be the firemen's parade on Monday, the 28th September. The programme of the Firemen's Tournament comprises a championship race for teams who will run 150 yards, attach and lay 350 feet of hose, put on pipe, get water and perform other interesting movements. Then there will be what are known as the wet and dry tests, in which the efficiency of teams will be amply demonstrated. There will be a speed race, what is known as a "consolation race," and a make and break contest, which consists in making and breaking five couplings in line hose. This will be the tenth annual tournament of the association, on which occasion \$3,000 will be the value of the prizes, in addition to a number of other valuable trophies.

The exhibition buildings and grounds will be illuminated every evening, and there can be little doubt that, taking all the attractions into consideration, this will be the grandest week of sports ever offered on the Pacific Coast.

R. Seabrook.

T. Partridge

T. W. Cart

C. Haywar

Dr. Milne.

D. H. Ross

W. Dalby.

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Year.

1882

1883

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1890

PRINTING AND ADVERTISING.

R. Seabrook. W. J. McKeon. W. J. Pendray. T. W. Carter.

HALL.

T. Partridge. W. J. Pendray. M. Baker. J. T. McIlmoyle.
E. Hutcheson. H. Page.

YARD.

T. W. Carter. W. Thompson. W. Lorimer. H. Webb.
A. C. Wells. J. Kirkland.

BAND.

C. Hayward. J. H. Todd. R. Seabrook. C. J. Major.

RECEPTION.

President and Board of Directors.

PRIZE LIST.

Dr. Milne. T. Partridge. J. T. McIlmoyle. T. W. Carter.
E. Hutcheson. W. J. McKeon.

RACING AND SPORTS.

D. H. Ross. John Braden. W. Dalby. E. Johns.
J. Templeton. H. D. Benson.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS.

W. Dalby. D. H. Ross. C. Hayward. W. Templeman.
Dr. Milne.

The following is the list of Presidents since 1882, and the places where the exhibitions were held:

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Name of President.</i>	<i>Where held.</i>
1882	Mr. George Deans	Victoria.
1883	Mr. W. H. Ladner	New Westminster.
1884	Mr. J. D. Bryant	Victoria.
1885	Mr. J. Kirkland	New Westminster.
1886	Mr. N. Shakespeare...	Victoria.
1887	Mr. A. C. Wells	Chilliwack.
1888	Mr. D. W. Higgins	Victoria.
1889	Mr. W. H. Ladner	New Westminster.
1890	Mr. W. Dalby	Victoria.

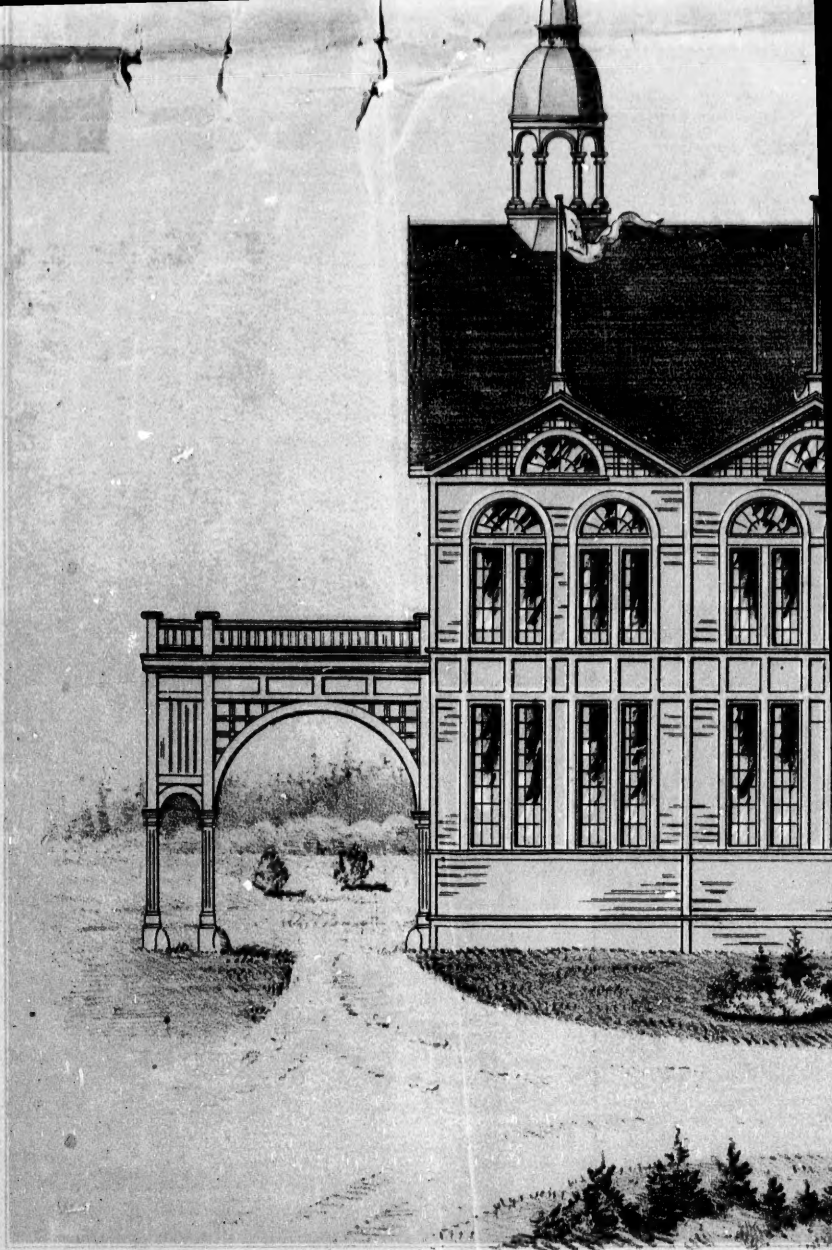
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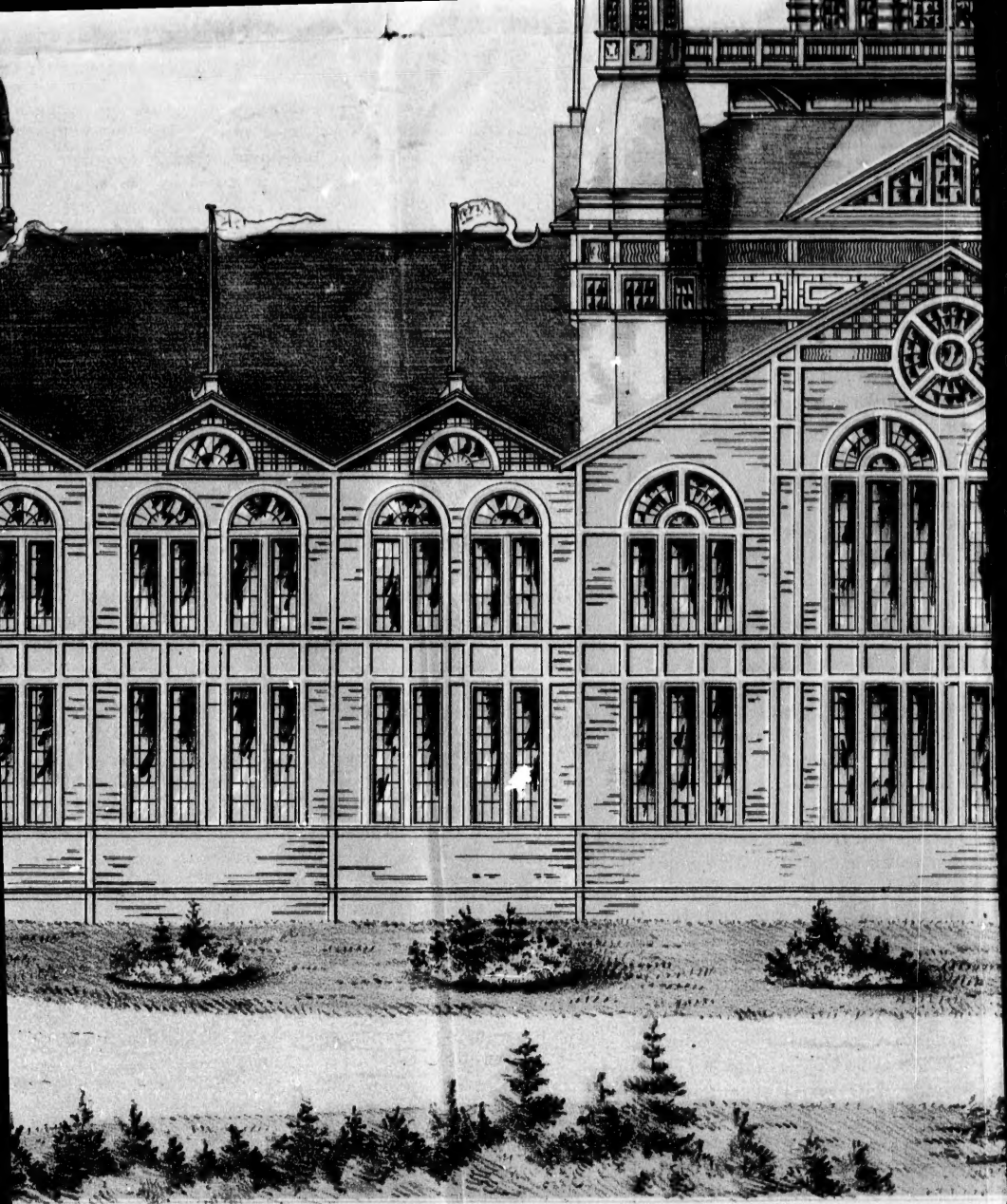






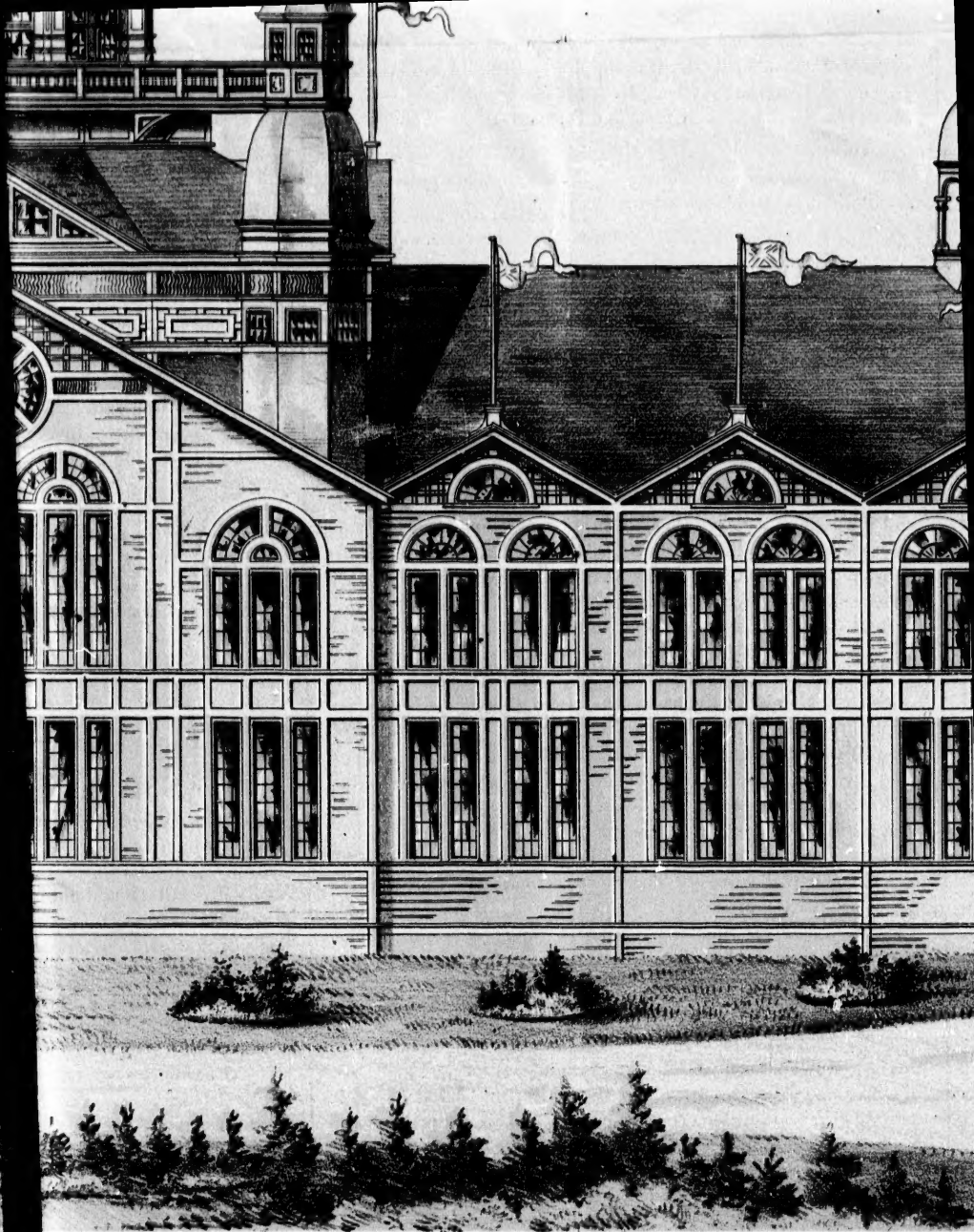


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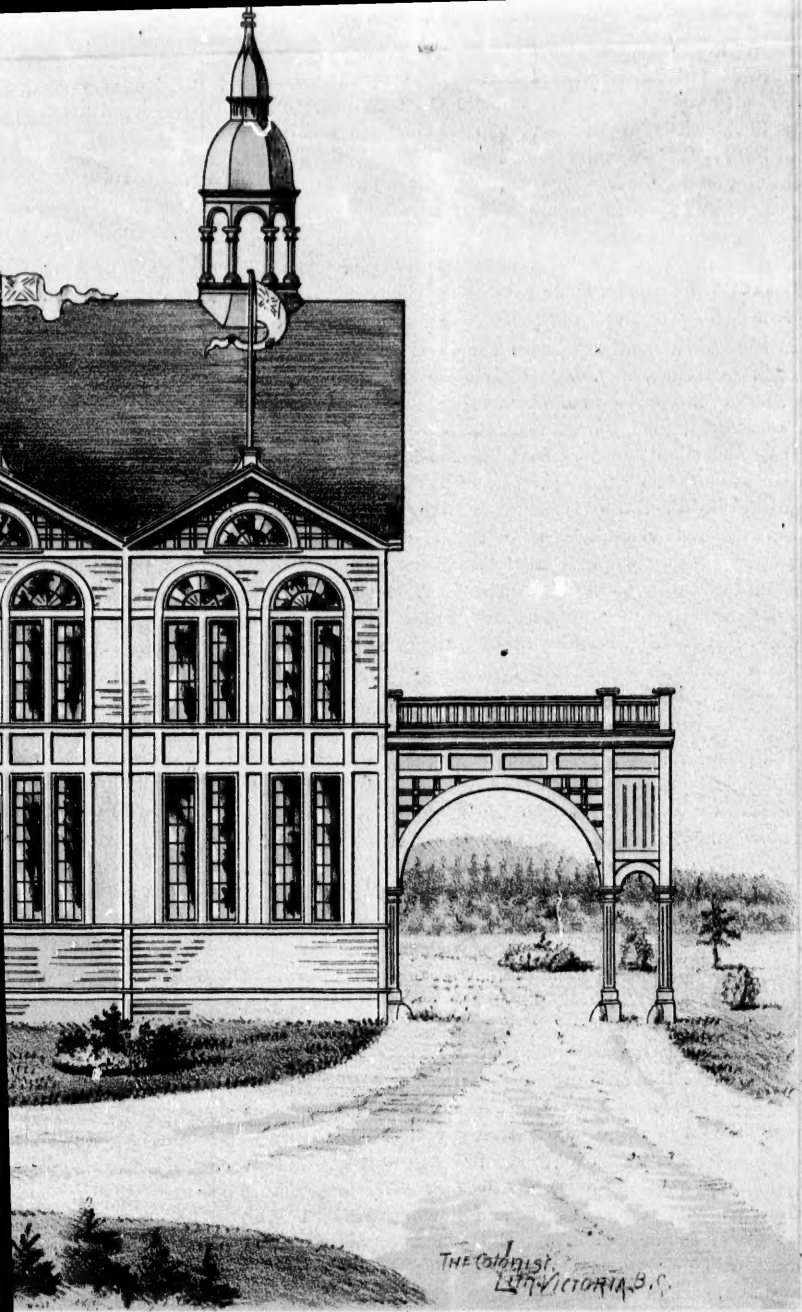
EXHIBITION, SEPT. 29th & 30th.



Cultural Association, Victoria

, OCT. 1st, 2nd & 3rd, 1891.

PROVINCIAL ARCHITECT



Victoria, B. C.

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES OF B. C.